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MONTANA CONSTITUTIONAL  
CONVENTION

STATE DOCUMENTS

ANNUAL REPORT  
OF THE  
VETERANS' WELFARE COMMISSION

TO THE  
GOVERNOR OF MONTANA  
HONORABLE FORREST H. ANDERSON

FOR THE  
FISCAL YEAR ENDED  
June 30, 1971

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STATE OF MONTANA

VETERANS' WELFARE COMMISSION

HELENA, MONTANA 59601

The Honorable Forrest H. Anderson  
Governor  
State of Montana  
Helena, Montana 59601

Dear Governor Anderson:

In accordance with the requirements of Section 82-4002, R. C. M. 1947, there is herewith transmitted to you the report of the Veterans' Welfare Commission covering the fiscal year ended June 30, 1971.

This report contains the activities and accomplishments of the Veterans' Welfare Commission. This consists of the number of veterans and dependents contacted during the year; the number of claims filed with the Veterans Administration; and the monetary value of the claims successfully established.

Due to the increasing work load it is recommended that another field office be established.

Respectfully submitted,

David W. Armstrong, Jr.  
Director



## TABLE OF CONTENTS

<b>Table of Contents</b>	<b>i</b>
<b>Principal Offices and Officers</b>	<b>1</b>
<b>Legal References</b>	<b>2</b>
<b>Principal Goals</b>	<b>3</b>
<b>Major Accomplishments</b>	<b>4</b>
<b>Major Recommendations</b>	<b>5</b>
<b>Program Description</b>	<b>6</b>
<b>Program Cost Summary and Detail</b>	<b>7</b>



PRINCIPAL OFFICERS

VETERANS WELFARE COMMISSION

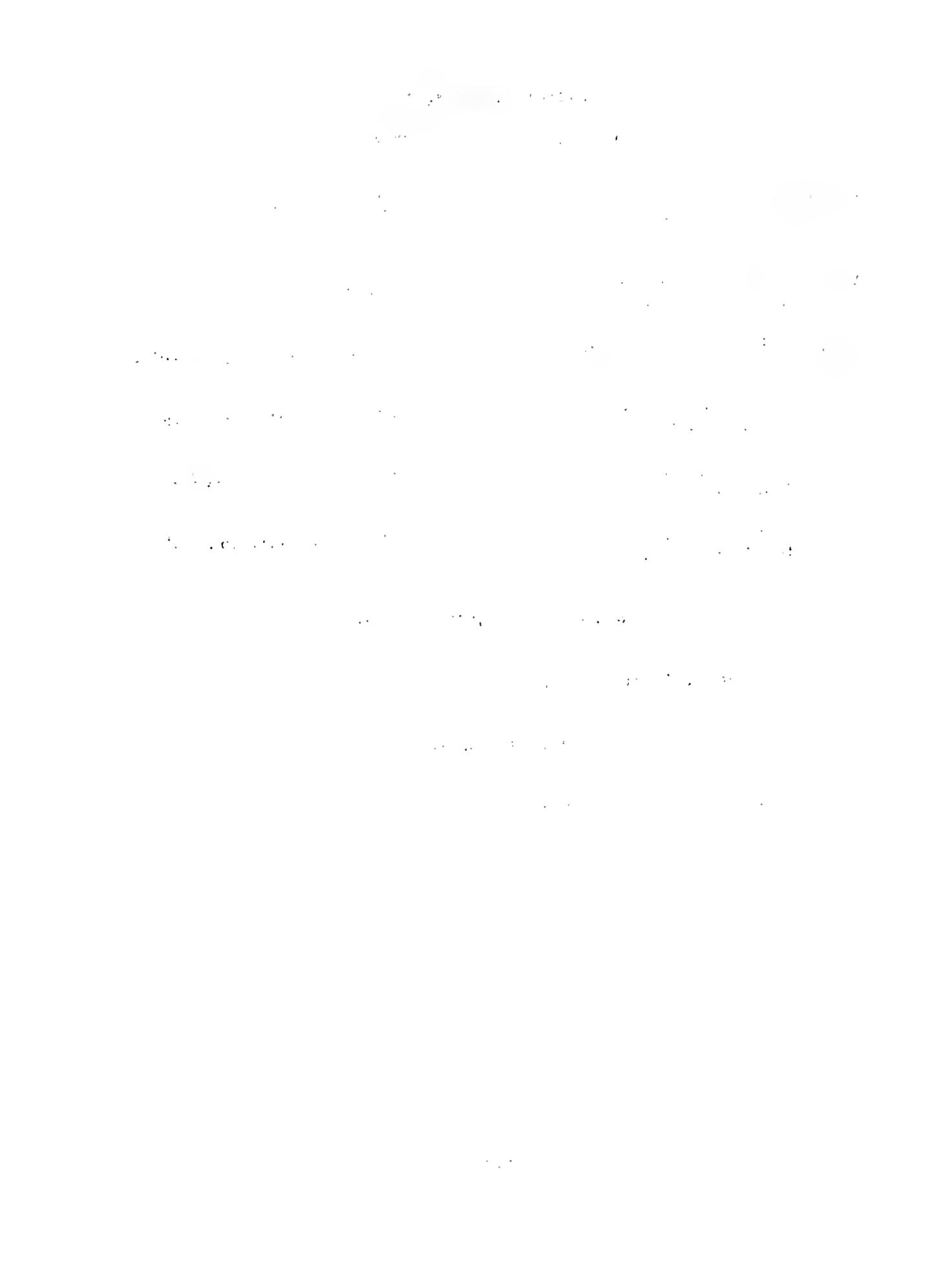
OFFICER TERM OF OFFICE	HOME ADDRESS
Leslie Eskildsen, Chairman 5-18-69 to 5-18-74	Malta
Vince Caciari, Vice Chairman 8-18-70 to 5-18-75	35 Columbia Ave., Whitefish
Russell W. Lindborg, Secretary 5-18-67 to 5-18-72	1860 35th St., Missoula
Charles Lelek, Member 8-18-68 to 5-18-73	115 E. Main, Lewistown
John Grauman, Member 8-18-71 to 5-18-76	3436 Timberline Dr., Billings

PRINCIPAL ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICER

David W. Armstrong, Jr., Director

PRINCIPAL OFFICE

Horsky Building, Helena, Montana



## LEGAL REFERENCES

### GENERAL

The statutes relating to the operations of the Veterans' Welfare Commission are contained in Section 77-1001 to 77-1011 of the Revised Codes of Montana 1947.

Operating policies necessary to administer statutory requirements are contained in the Veterans Administration Regulations. The specific day to day operations of the Veterans' Welfare Commission are largely confined to being a liaison between Montana veterans and their dependents, and the Veterans Administration.

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## PRINCIPAL GOAL

The Veterans' Welfare Commission exists to provide a means whereby veterans, and their dependents, obtain Federal benefits due them from the Veterans Administration.



## MAJOR ACCOMPLISHMENTS

Achievements: During the fiscal year 1970-71 the service officers of the VVC made 41,113 contacts.

To accomplish our goal of assisting veterans and their dependents in claims to the Veterans Administration there were filed:

<u>611</u>	Compensation and Pension Claims
<u>462</u>	Death Claims
<u>1491</u>	Educational Claims
<u>547</u>	Dental Claims

In order to complete compensation, pension, and educational assistance claims the following documents were obtained for and filed with the Veterans Administration:

<u>1195</u>	Marriage Certificates
<u>1646</u>	Birth Certificates
<u>473</u>	Divorce Decrees
<u>384</u>	Death Certificates

The monetary benefits which we assisted claimants in obtaining from the Veterans Administration payments were as follows:

<u>\$561,457.00</u>	Compensation and Pension for Veterans
<u>262,802.00</u>	Death Claims
<u>3,341,729.00</u>	Educational Assistance Benefits
<u>550,896.00</u>	Insurance
<u>Total</u>	<u>\$4,716,884.00</u>



## MAJOR RECOMMENDATIONS SUMMERIZED

Priority	Recommendation	Program
1	Establish a local service office in Havre	Administrative

## MAJOR RECOMMENDATIONS DESCRIBED

- 1 Local Service Office in Havre: If the primary objective of assisting veterans in obtaining the benefits they are entitled to under the federal programs administered by the Veterans Administration is to be accomplished a service office is needed in Havre. This recommendation, made for the second time, is necessitated by the ever increasing number of veterans in the state and the fact that in one of our more heavily populated areas there is no service office between Kalispell on the West and Wolf Point to the East. Services as currently given, to M-ita out of Wolf Point and to Havre and Browning out of Great Falls, are limited at best and cannot meet the demand. An additional \$4,000.00 annually is required to establish this office.



## PROGRAM DESCRIPTION

### GOAL

Assist veterans and their dependents in obtaining the Federal benefits due them from the Veterans Administration.

### OBJECTIVE

To assist every veteran or his dependents with the filing of claims for benefits to which they are entitled.

To advise every veteran and his dependents of the benefits available and assist them with the filing for the benefits.

To act as the veterans or dependents accredited representative before the Veterans Administration whenever required.

To provide itenerant service to each county of the State.

### ACHIEVEMENTS

Maintained a high level of contacts in spite of reduced travel. The increasing number of veterans, of course, aided in maintaining this level.

Represent 32,500 veterans and dependents.

### PERFORMANCE INDICATORS

	1968-1969	1969-1970	1970-1971
Cost	\$152,420.00	\$153,351.00	\$156,383.00

### Performance:

Contacts made	38,366	40,196	41,113
Claims Filed	2,551	3,373	3,111



PROGRAM COST DETAIL

Program	1970-71 FY Total	Personal Services	Operating Expenses	Capital
Administration	\$156,383.00	126,068.00	29,536.00	634.00

SOURCE OF FUNDING

General Fund	\$156,383.00
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